

**Town of Holland**  
**Annual Meeting Minutes**  
**April 18, 2017**

**The annual meeting of the Town of Holland was called to order by Chairman Donald Becker at 7:30 P.M. on April 18, 2017, at the Town of Holland Hall, County G. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Becker. The Chairman certified that the requirements of the Wisconsin Open Meeting Laws have been met.**

**Don Becker explained that there is a draft agenda, but the electors are entitled to add anything they choose to have discussed as long as it is in the limits of what is allowed by law for the electors to decide. Don explained that State Stats., not the Board, determine what is allowed to be decided at an Annual Meeting. Only people who reside in the Town of Holland may vote. Property owners who do not reside in the Township are not allowed to vote. Voting will be done by a show of hands unless otherwise called for. He asked if anyone would like additions to the agenda. Motion by Nathan Voskuil, seconded by Jack Stokdyk, to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Clerk Sharon Claerbaut had provided copies of the Annual Meeting Minutes from April 19, 2016. In previous years the prior year's minutes had been read to those assembled at the Annual Meeting, but this year Don Becker told the group that by providing hard copies of the minutes it allows those present to review them at any time. He explained that these minutes are for information only because each year the minutes are approved by the people present at that meeting.**

**The Chairman, Don Becker, stated that the Town of Holland Board works very well together and that each member has contributed greatly to make everything run smoothly. He introduced the Board members – Stanley Lammers, David Huenink, Steve Jones, and Doug Hamilton. Chairman Becker told everyone that each Board member will be appointed as the Chairman of one of the committees and also will serve on another committee, but due to the recent election, the appointments have not yet been made for the coming year. He then introduced Clerk Sharon Claerbaut, Treasurer Craig Droppers and Deputy Treasurer Sue Droppers, Plan Commission member Jack Stokdyk, Plan Commission Clerk Louise Huenink, Director of Public Works and Property**

**Nathan Voskuil, Hall Custodian Dennis Huibregtse, and Judi O’Connell who assists the Town Clerk. Chairman Becker also thanked Sharon Claerbaut, Sue Droppers, and Board members wives for organizing and preparing the lunch that will be served after the meeting.**

**Chairman Becker then stated that the Town Auditor will be presenting the Financial Report later in the meeting, but is not yet present because he had an obligation to also attend another Township’s Annual Meeting tonight. Therefore the committee reports will be presented at this point in the meeting.**

### **Progress reports by Committee Chairpersons and Town Chairman:**

#### **Public Safety:**

**David Huenink reported that he is the chairman of the Public Safety Committee. This committee primarily involves police and fire protection for the Town. For police protection, the Sheboygan Sheriff’s Department provides normal coverage for the entire county. The Town also contracts for additional police services for Town specific tasks, mostly targeting the summer months.**

**For fire protection, the Town is involved with four fire department, Cedar Grove, Oostburg, Adell, and Random Lake.**

**Our Public Safety budget for 2017 is somewhat higher due to long overdue capital improvements to the Oostburg Firehouse. The total cost is equally divided between the four municipal partners.**

**David said he would also like to report on another topic. He is on Sheboygan County’s Amsterdam Dunes Advisory Committee. Amsterdam Dunes is the 322-acre area with Lake Michigan frontage near Amsterdam Park that the County recently acquired. Things are progressing slowly as funds become available via grants. Work started recently on removing wooded invasive species, so you may notice worker in the area. There is a high concentration of ash trees in some areas, so they’ve discussed how to react to the coming Emerald Ash Borer infestation. Dave said he has some information regarding this matter that electors can look at after the meeting if interested. He asked if there were any questions.**

#### **Parks and Property:**

**Doug Hamilton is the Chairman of the Parks and Property Committee. He reported that recent improvements to the recycling center were realized in 2016. The two compactors for recyclable material provide three benefits. 1)Lower cost by reducing the number of pickups required, 2)offers backup in case one fails and 3) in an emergency, providing a backup if the trash dumpster is full or**

**inoperable. Single-stream recycling allows residents to recycle paper, cardboard, glass, metal and plastic without having to sort into separate containers.**

**Doug said the Town held their first Shred Event in 2016 in conjunction with Oostburg State Bank. Residents could bring confidential papers for shredding, providing security for personal information and helping prevent potential identity theft. Response was enthusiastic, and the Town will be holding another Shred Event in July, 2017 at the Oostburg State Bank parking lot. Doug thanked the volunteers for their energetic help and Oostburg State Bank for providing their parking lot and cashier.**

**Doug said that the Board expects the renovation of the Town Hall to be completed in 2017. This will provide office space for the clerk and treasurer and an improved meeting room with better acoustics for public meetings.**

**A question was asked if the Recycling Center accepts oil. The answer was ‘yes, and they also accept oil filters, but please drain them first’.**

#### **Administration:**

**Steve Jones is the chairman of the Administration Committee and reported that he had worked on several things this past year.**

**Upon working on the Town Insurance Policy with Rural Insurance Steve found a fair amount of discrepancies. He thoroughly went through the insurance policies and brought them completely up to date. This will need to be done again when the Town Hall is finished.**

**Steve said that the Town Board was involved in a feral cat issue with a couple of its residents this past year. He worked with the Town Board and the residents to solve the issue to everyone’s satisfaction. Included in the help with this was Terri Ebersole, from My Feral Fix, that helps people in Sheboygan County to trap, neuter, and return feral cats.**

**Although there has not been any action on the open application for the Windy Acres wind farm in several years it is still alive. The FFA asked for and was granted a new permit on 01/19/2017 that is good thru 07/19/2019. This tells him that they are still very active. At the present time, they are in the process of trying to build the Highland Wind Farm in the Town of Forest in St. Croix County.**

#### **Roads:**

**Stan Lammers is the Chairman of the Roads Committee. He reported that in 2016 the Town did betterments on Risseeuw Road from KW to Rauwerdink Road. Also on DeMaster Road between DeWitt and Sauk Trail Road. This road is shared with the Village of Oostburg. Also betterment was done on Sauk Trail**

Road from DeWitt to Smies Road, and Pebble Beach Road and Sauk Trail Road to the Town of Belgium line.

Blacktop was done on Gibbons Road from Holland-Lima Road to DeMaster Road. Also black top was done on Sauk Trail Road from DeWitt to Smies Road. Seal coating was done on Six Mile Road from K to RR and from D to G.

For 2017 the Committee plans on doing betterment on Rauwerdink Road from G to Risseeuw Road and on a portion of Hoitink Road. They plan to blacktop Risseeuw Road from KW to Rauwerdink Road and blacktop DeMaster Road from DeWitt to Sauk Trail Road.

The committee replaced the 23 year old mower tractor with a new one. Last, but not least, during 2016 Roger TeStroete retired in April, and Nate Voskuil was hired to fill the public works superintendent position.

Someone raised the question of what he should do about the gravel that is put down along the outer edges of the road and is thrown onto lawns by the snow plow. A question was also raised on County Road D. This is a County Road. Rodger TeStroete, who is on the County Board, was present at the meeting and said that County D will be redone two miles per year starting at Hwy 57 and going to the Cedar Grove Village limits.

#### **Chairman's Report:**

Chairman Don Becker reported that the Town Hall renovation project was approved by the electors in the fall of 2015. The project scope included building out office space on the north end of the existing hall, addition of two restrooms, removal of the stage and construction of a meeting room in its place, replacement of heating equipment, addition of air conditioning, upgrade of lighting, re-siding of the hall, and corresponding electrical and plumbing changes. All work is intended to preserve the look and character of the present hall.

The project was bid in 2016 and was anticipated to be completed the same year. The bids come in over budget, however, and the Town Board rejected all bids. It was re-bid in early 2017, but there were no general contractors that bid the project. The Town Board then chose to change their approach and to also conduct a thorough review of the project specifications. This work is nearing completion, and they anticipate taking the project out for bids again this month. Four general contractors have expressed an interest in submitting bids for the project. The Town Board is encouraging general contractors to use local subcontractors wherever possible.

Work is anticipated to begin in early May and be completed by November 1, 2017.

**A few questions were asked about the parking lot and handicap accessibility. Don explained the changes being planned.**

**Chairman Becker reported on Plan Commission Activities as follows:**

**The Town Chairman and one Town Supervisor, Dave Huenink, serve on the Plan Commission. There are other appointed members on this committee. The focus of the Plan Commission in 2015 and 2016 has been the reworking and recertification of our zoning ordinances under the Working Lands Initiative. This included review of the zoning of hundreds of land parcels throughout the Township and the rezoning of selected parcels to make them consistent with the new zoning ordinance. The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection recertified the new zoning ordinances in late 2016. A question was asked if all Zoning Ordinances are now on the website. The answer was 'yes'.**

**Chairman Becker thanked the members of the Board, Plan Commission, and all other appointed and volunteers for their service to the Town in 2016.**

**Any other business that lawfully comes before the Township: There was a thank you from an elector for the work the Board does for the Town. Larry Heinen asked for a moment of silence regarding the very recent death of Dale Droppers, a former Board member and former Board of Appeals member. This moment of silence was observed. Mr. Becker also told those present about the passing of Sam Huibregtse, a former Board member and longtime Town Chairman of the Town of Holland, and the passing of his Father, Kenneth Becker, who had served on the Plan Commission and the Town Board. Both of these gentlemen have passed away within the last year.**

**Chairman Becker introduced Paul Corson of the firm of Corson, Peterson and Hamann who conducts the Town Audit each year. Don turned the meeting over to Mr. Corson who presented the 2016 audit along with pie charts showing percentages of the sources of income for the Town as well as percentages of how the budget is spent. He reported that a loan was taken out for the Hall renovation, but also covered the new roof for the Hall, the failed septic system, and improvements at the Recycling Center. Motion by Roger TeStroete, seconded by Jack Stokdyk, to approve the report as presented. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

**Maria Hayvesky thanked Stan Lammers for the work done on Knepprath Road. She also thanked clerk, Sharon Claerbaut, stating that she had contacted**

**Sharon on several occasions and was happy with her help and the new friendship.**

**Set next annual meeting date: The annual meeting date has been set by State Stats as the third Tuesday in April. The third Tuesday in April of 2018 will be April 17, 2018. Motion by Stan Lammers, seconded by Jack Stokdyk, to set the date of April 17, 2018 at 7:30 P.M. as the next annual meeting date. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

**Reading of the 2016 Minutes for approval: Don recommended that the reading will not have to include all of the Committee reports because they had been presented to the clerk in writing at the meeting and would only be a repetition of the reports. Clerk, Sharon Claerbaut, read the minutes for approval. Motion by Elizabeth Jentges, seconded by Craig Droppers, to approve the minutes with one addition. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Jack Stokdyk, seconded by Steve Jones, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.**

**Respectfully Submitted,  
Sharon Claerbaut, Clerk**

**Lunch was served following the meeting.**